

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 19, 2005. Claims 29, 31, 32, 34-36, and 38-42 are presented for examination. Claim 33 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 29, 31, 32, and 34-36 have been amended to define Applicants' invention more clearly. Claims 29, 35, 36, and 40-42 are independent. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 29 and 31-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from U.S. Patent 6,098,065 (Skillen et al.) in view of U.S. Publication 2004/0030656 A1 (Kambayashi et al.), and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,522,421 (Chapman et al.).

First, cancellation of Claim 33 renders the rejection of that claim moot.

Claim 29 is directed to an information provider system. A server terminal (e.g. a P service server 200 and/or an IP server 300; see Fig. 1 of the present application, for example) includes a first storage unit (see, e.g., page 25, lines 20 and 21), a provision unit (see, e.g., page 17, line 22, to page 18, line 2), an acquisition unit (see, e.g., steps S2501 and S2502 of Fig. 98), and a first transmission unit (see, e.g., page 92, lines 17 and 18).¹ The first storage unit stores content information corresponding to an identification code, and the provision unit provides a client communication terminal with message information including the identification code. The

¹ It is of course to be understood that the references to various portions of the present application are by way of illustration and example only, and that the claims are not limited by the details shown in the portions referred to.

acquisition unit acquires, from the first storage unit, content information corresponding to the identification code transmitted from the client communication terminal via a printer apparatus.

The first transmission unit transmits the content information to the printer apparatus.

A client communication terminal includes an extraction unit (see, e.g., step S3113 of Figs. 108 and 109), a second storage unit (see, e.g., page 18, lines 5-7), a second transmission unit (see, e.g., page 18, lines 7-9), and an instruction unit (see, e.g., Figs. 108 and 109). The extraction unit extracts the identification code from the message information provided by the provision unit, and the second storage unit stores the identification code extracted by the extraction unit. The second transmission unit transmits the identification code stored in the second storage unit to the server terminal via the printer apparatus, and the instruction unit instructs the extraction unit to execute the extraction process and instructs the second transmission unit to execute the transmission process in response to one operation by using a single physical button.

A printer apparatus (e.g., P service terminal 100) is connected to the server terminal and includes a printing unit (see, e.g., page 92, lines 17-19) adapted to print the content information transmitted by the first transmission unit.

As described, the system of Claim 29 includes a server terminal, a client terminal and a printer apparatus. Among the notable features of Claim 29 are that (1) the client terminal extracts an information identification code from message information provided by the server terminal and transmits the identification code to the server terminal via a printer apparatus, in

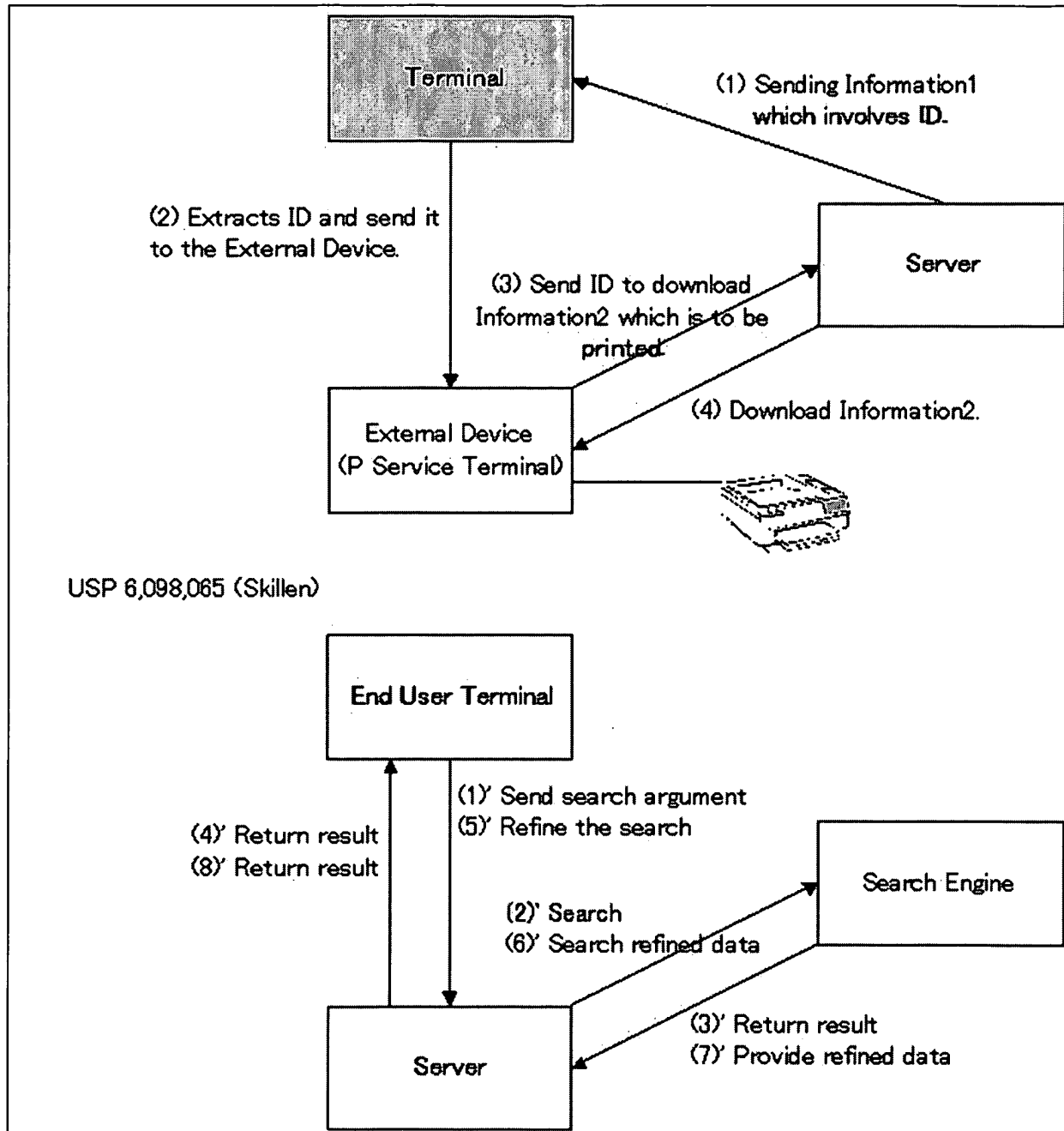
response to one operation by using a single physical button, (2) the server terminal transmits content information corresponding to the transmitted information identification code to the printer apparatus, and (3) the printer apparatus prints the transmitted content information.

Skillen, as understood by Applicants, relates to an associative server engine. A server receives a search request including a search argument corresponding to desired information from an end user and searches for the desired information based upon the received search argument. In particular, an end user device 12 (see Fig. 2 of that patent) transmits a keyword to a server 38, and a database search engine 44 searches data using the keyword to provide a search result to the end user device 12.

Applicants have prepared a schematic diagram (see the following page) in order to aid the Examiner's understanding as to the distinctions between the system of Claim 29 and the Skillen system.

With reference to the attached schematic diagram, Skillen fails to teach or suggest transmitting the information identification code from the client terminal to the server terminal via the printer apparatus, as in Claim 29. Further, the printer apparatus recited in Claim 29 prints content information transmitted by the server terminal; in contrast, as shown by items (4)' and (8)' of the diagram, in Skillen, the server 38 transmits the search result to the end user terminal 12.

The Present Invention



Kambayashi et al., as understood by Applicants, relates to information recording and reproducing. The Examiner states at page 3 of the Office Action:

Skillen fails to teach an instruction unit adapted to instruct said extraction unit to execute an extraction process and said first transmission unit to execute transmission process in response to one operation by using a single physical key. However Kambayashi teaches extraction process and said first transmission unit to execute a transmission process in response to one operation by using a single physical key (col 6 lines 25-45).

However, the cited portion of Kambayashi et al. discusses a single key for encrypting data which is logical data, rather than a *physical button*, as recited in Claim 29.

Applicants submit, respectfully, that the Examiner is exhibiting a misunderstanding in that he is equating the logical key of Kambayashi with the physical button of the claimed invention.

Chapman et al., as understood by Applicants, relates to automatically communicating status information relative to a document production job by a printer. Chapman et al. merely discusses that an e-mail is described by HTML and that a mail address is extracted by the e-mail, and nothing in that patent would supply what is missing from Skillen and Kambayashi et al.

Nothing in Skillen, Kambayashi et al., or Chapman et al., whether considered separately or in any permissible combination (if any) would teach or suggest that (1) a client terminal extracts an information identification code from message information provided by a server terminal and transmits the identification code to the server terminal via a printer apparatus,

in response to one operation by using a single physical button, (2) the server terminal transmits content information corresponding to the transmitted information identification code to the printer apparatus, and (3) the printer apparatus prints the transmitted content information, as in Claim 29.

Accordingly, Claim 29 is believed to be patentable over Skillen, Kambayashi et al., or Chapman et al., whether considered separately or in any permissible combination (if any).

Independent Claims 35, 36, and 40-42 recite certain features which are similar in many relevant respects to those discussed above with respect to Claim 29 and therefore are also believed to be patentable over Skillen, Kambayashi et al., and Chapman et al. for at least the reasons discussed above.

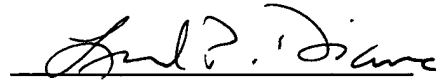
A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other rejected claims in this application depend from independent Claim 29, and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Leonard P. Diana", is written over a horizontal line.

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